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Mr. Doug Tomchuk
USEPA - Region II
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278

Re: Hudson River RRI/FS Advisory Committees

Dear Doug:

I heard today that some members of the Hudson River RRI/FS Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) were invited to the Liaison Committee meeting last night to answer questions about the RRI/FS. While I applaud the effort to have the various advisory groups interact with one another, I was dismayed to learn that this was the mechanism which you had chosen.

Although the members of the STC which you chose are certainly experts in their fields, they invariably have personal opinions. Those individual's opinions should not be represented to the Liaison Committee as the opinions of the STC. Many different fields of science and expertise are represented on the STC and, as you know, our meetings involve long debate on a variety of subjects germane to the RRI/FS. The STC forms collective opinions after a period of disagreement and discussion. I am concerned that the Liaison committee must have come away from the meeting last night believing that the individuals who spoke were communicating the opinions of the STC.

I suggest that, if another briefing on scientific issues is held, that the full STC be invited to attend, in order that all points of view be represented. At the very least, if such a briefing is held, all members of the STC should be notified.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you would like to discuss this further, feel free to give me a call.

Very truly yours,

JOHN DAVIS
Environmental Scientist

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